

## Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 EB-07 BIB-01 L-02 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 RSC-01 OTPE-00 PRS-01 USIA-06 /041 W

----- 071043

R 282238Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5514

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

95 SW GOOSE BAY APRT CN/CC

CO US NAVAL STN ARGENTIA, NEWFOUNDLAND

AMCONSUL ST JOHNS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, CA, US

SUBJ: GOOSE BAY AND ARGENTIA ARMED FORCES RADIO STATIONS

REF: A. STATE 278960; B. OTTAWA 4168; C. GOOSE BAY

131950Z JAN 75; D. ARGENTIA 151701Z JAN 75

SECDEFENSE PASS NAVY AND AIR FORCE

1. FULFORD, DIR., TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS & ENERGY  
DIVISION, EXTAFF, TOLD TCO INFORMALLY JAN 28 HE EXPECTS TO BE  
ABLE TO ADVISE EMBASSY SHORTLY THERE WILL BE NO PROBLEM WITH  
THE CONTINUED OPERATION OF THESE AFRS STATIONS AND THAT GOOSE  
BAY CAN LET THE JAN 31 DATE (INCLUDED IN THE DEPT OF  
COMMUNICATIONS REGIONAL OFFICE STATEMENT OF NON-OBJECTION,  
SEE REF C) PASS WITHOUT GOING OFF THE AIR.

2. EMBASSY HAS BEEN ENGAGED IN FREQUENT DISCUSSIONS WITH  
EXTAFF ABOUT THIS QUESTION SINCE LATE IN DECEMBER AND EXTAFF,  
IN TURN, HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN CONTINUAL DIALOGUE WITH THE  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS, THE CANADIAN RADIO AND  
TELEVISION COMMISSION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF  
STATE (WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CANADIAN BROADCASTING  
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CORPORATION). AT ISSUE IS THE NECESSITY FOR THE GOC

TO FIND A SATISFACTORY LEGAL BASIS FOR PERMITTING CONTINUED OPERATIONS WITHOUT HAVING TO REVISE BASIC CANADIAN LEGISLATION AND MAKING THE ISSUE ONE OF PUBLIC DISCUSSION. UNDER CANADIAN LAW ONLY A CANADIAN CITIZEN CAN OWN AND OPERATE A BROADCASTING STATION IN CANADA. HENCE, THE GOC CANNOT ISSUE BROADCAST LICENSES TO THE U.S. MILITARY STATIONS AS SUCH.

3. THE MOST PROMISING DEVICE AT THE MOMENT APPEARS TO BE A DIRECTION FROM THE GOVERNMENT (UNDER ARTICLE 39 OF THE BROADCASTING ACT, 16-17 ELIZABETH II, CHAPTER 25) TO THE CBC TO TAKE OVER AND OPERATE THE TWO STATIONS BUT WITH NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROGRAMMING. IF THIS APPROACH IS AGREED AMONG THE DEPARTMENTS, THE GOC WILL PROPOSE TO THE USG THAT THE EQUIPMENT BE LEASED BY THE U.S. MILITARY (PERHAPS THROUGH THE DEPT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE) TO THE CBC AT \$1 PER YEAR. CBC, IN TURN, WOULD SUPERVISE THE TECHNICAL OPERATION OF THE STATIONS WITHOUT BEING INVOLVED IN ANY DAY-TO-DAY ASPECTS OF MANAGEMENT. FULFORD RECOGNIZED THAT THE NEGOTIATION OF SUCH A LEASE MAY PROVIDE FULL EMPLOYMENT FOR LAWYERS CONCERNED UNTIL WELL AFTER THE GOOSE BAY BASE AGREEMENT EXPIRES ON JULY 1, 1976, BUT HOPES THAT IT WILL PROVIDE AN ARRANGEMENT THAT WILL ENDURE AT ARGENTIA SO LONG AS THE U.S. CONTINUES TO OPERATE THAT FACILITY. HE ALSO INDICATED THAT THE CBC IS EXPECTED TO OPPOSE THIS ARRANGEMENT, BUT THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE HAS INDICATED IT WILL SEE THAT CBC GOES ALONG. IN THE MEANTIME, FULFORD SUGGESTED THERE WILL BE NO NEED FOR THE STATIONS TO TERMINATE BROADCASTING.

4. EMBASSY WILL REPORT FURTHER WHEN WE HAVE A MORE OFFICIAL STATEMENT FROM EXTAFF. GOOSE BAY STATION SHOULD NOT TAKE ANY ACTION TO SUSPEND OPERATIONS JANUARY 31. PORTER

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